

THE TERESIAN

Official Publication of the Student Body of the College of St. Teresa

Vol. 26

WINDMOOR, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, December 19, 1956

No. 4

Three Students Charter Members In Fraternity

Three CST students will be charter members of a newly organized fraternity under the National Catholic Theatre Conference. Alyce Marie Schmidt, president of the campus Drama Club, Twila Hegarty, and Mary McQueeny have been selected by Sister M. Felice, college co-ordinator of the West-Central Region, for this honor. They will attend the Chicago meeting of the Theatre Conference at the Conrad-Hilton Hotel, December 28, with Sister M. Felice.

Representatives of twelve other colleges will also be charter members of this new organization. They will make plans at the Chicago meeting for the initiation ceremony to be held this coming June in Kansas City at the national meeting of NCTC.

The fraternity is being formed as a solution to the problems of students in Catholic theatre. It will aim to give recognition on a national level to outstanding talent in Catholic college theatre and to raise the standards of college theatre. A teacher placement service is also being set up by the fraternity.

Colleges eligible for admission into the Fraternity have been given an A or B rating according to the drama activities. St. Teresa's has an A rating.

Sophomore's Poem To Be in Anthology

Carolyn Bousman's poem, "The Last Breeze," will be published in the 1957 Annual Anthology of College Poetry. Carolyn, a sophomore, is an English major. She submitted the poem to the National Poetry Association, whose headquarters are in Los Angeles, California.

In his letter of congratulation Dennis Hartman, secretary of the association, wrote: "The Anthology is a compilation of the finest poetry written by the college men and women of America, representing every section of the country. Selections were made from thousands of poems submitted."

To Speak at Assembly On Missionary Life

Father Creston Smith, C.S.S.R., recently returned from Thailand, spoke to the general assembly December 17. He told the students about his missionary work during the past five years in Thailand.

Father Smith, a native of Kansas City, arrived in the United States August 20 and will leave in January for a mission north of Bangkok.

Sister Georgiana Marie, moderator of the Mission Club, arranged for Father Smith's visit to St. Teresa's.

It was Father Smith who baptized Miriam Songsiridet, from Bangkok, Thailand. Miriam is a freshman at the college and lives with Father Smith's family.



LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: Margaret Courter lights the last candle on the wreath which has been placed by the Sodality in the front hall of Donnelly. Arden Sickman watches the ceremony.

At the general assembly of the Student Government Association, December 2, Father Hugh Farrington, O.S.B., theology teacher, gave a short explanation of the meaning of Advent. Father explained that Advent is a period of preparation for the coming of Christ. It is not only a time to recall the first coming of Christ in Bethlehem, but also a preparation for the second coming of Christ at the final judgment.

Father Hugh also explained the symbolism of the Advent wreath. The four candles stand for the four Sundays of Advent, four steps in the preparation for the coming of the Savior. Also the candles in giving light, represent Christ, the Light of the world.

After his explanation Father blessed the wreath. Jean Jacobson, vice-president of the Student Government Association, lit the first candle.

Original Fairy Tale to Be Presented For Annual Children's Play in February

The Last of the Leprechauns, an original fairy tale by Sister Marcella Marie of the English Department, has been selected for the annual Children's Play. The musical score, consisting of seven lyrics, was written by Sister de La Salle, who is studying at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

Sister M. Felice, who will direct the play, has scheduled try-outs for January 10 and 11. All students interested in participating are invited to meet with Sister at 2:00 p.m., on January 10, and 3:00 p.m., January 11, in the assembly hall. There are eight character roles and a chorus of dancers and singers.

The cast includes Witzzy, the leader of the leprechauns; Cathy, a 15-year-old princess; Lady Grabitall, the villainess; Clementine,

her daughter; Blownmuch, the pompous herald of the palace; King Noblehart, a king too old to rule; his son, Prince Michael; Flimflip, the French ballet master.

Four performances of The Last of the Leprechauns are scheduled for February 19-22.

A Formal Dance

The traditional sophomore formal Christmas dance will be held December 25 in Moley's Ballroom. Warren Durrett and his orchestra will play from 9 to 12.

The dance has been highly publicized and a crowd of 200 couples is hoped for. The bids will be \$3.00 a couple. The sophomores gave a mixer November 12 to raise money to help finance the Christmas dance.

Combined Choruses Add Festive Note to Annual Key Ceremony

The annual Christmas choral concert and senior key ceremony was presented December 12, in the Music and Arts auditorium. The procession of the seniors and the CST chorus into the auditorium opened the ceremony.

Sister Mary Berenice O'Neill, president of the college, awarded the keys to the seniors. These rings, pins, or pendants, bear the seal of the school, the year of graduation and the degree for which the senior is a candidate. The senior members of the four-year nursing program also received keys.

This part of the ceremony was concluded by Dr. Gerald L. Miller of the St. Joseph Hospital staff, who addressed the assembly.

The second part of the program consisted of a group of Christmas carols sung by the combined choruses of the college and St. Joseph Hospital. Carolun Kunz, Judy Gleeson, and Marilyn Lynch were the accompanists. Sister Olive Louise directed the group.

After the concert a reception was held in the Music and Art lounge and foyer. Refreshments were served to the seniors, their friends and family.

Gifts and Party For 33 Children From St. Monica's

The sodalists entertained thirty-three children from St. Monica's school yesterday afternoon at their annual Christmas party. The student body and faculty also attended the party, held in the cafeteria.

Father Alvin Deem, O.F.M., St. Joseph's parish, submitted names of children from large families who were "adopted" for the day by one of the sodalists. Gifts from the sodalists for the children included clothing and at least one toy.

A short entertainment preceded the entrance of Santa Claus. Jane Kirkpatrick, freshman, read Clement Moore's "The Night before Christmas," and the CST chorus sang the traditional Christmas carols.

Refreshments of brownies and colored pop-corn balls were served to the children. The balls were made by Mrs. Winifred Purdome, mother of Winifred, junior.

To Help Needy

The "Christmas Spirit" is in the air, from the festive tree in the smoker to the candy wreath on Sister Alfred's door. Each class has welcomed this season of giving, and adopted a needy family as their Christmas project. The girls are donating food, clothing, and toys to help bring the holiday spirit to these people.

Calendar

With Comment

- Dec. 19—Triple Cut Day: But it was worth it
- Dec. 20—Christmas recess 12 noon Faculty Workshop, 1:30 p.m. (No justice here)
- Dec. 25—Feast of the Nativity Sophomore Christmas Dance
- Jan. 1-6—Winter Sports Trip: Snow, ski, splint
- Jan. 7—Classes resume: Engagement ring survey Student Government Meeting
- Jan. 21-26—Semester Examination: Inventory of four months of procrastination
- Jan. 25-26—Registration for second semester: Bring your own secretary
- Jan. 31—A new semester begins: Resolutions followed by relapses

New Honors Course Being Planned Now In Lit-Psychology

A new honors course combining psychology and literature will be offered next semester for upper-classmen with a 2.5 average.

The course will be made up of a weekly two-hour seminar lead by Sister Alfred, Dean, and Sister Marcella Marie, head of the English Department. A research paper on some aspect of literature and psychology will be submitted by each member.

The first work of literature to be discussed will be Shakespeare's Hamlet and psychology of Freud. The course will also include an analysis of the recent best-seller The Bad Seed, Henry James' The Turn of the Screw, and Alice in Wonderland.

A list of the texts to be read and discussed and the philosophers to be analyzed is now being compiled and will be given to the students before second semester.

The credit in this course may be applied to either English or psychology. Eligible students will be notified.

Sodalists to Closed Retreat at Abbey

The Sodality will sponsor a closed retreat January 11-13 at Conception, Missouri, for the student body. At the present date, Pat Ketterlin, prefect of the Sodality, reports that approximately thirty students have made reservations.

The retreatants will stay in cottages on the grounds of the Benedictine Abbey. All meals will be served in the main dining room. A bus has been chartered as means of transportation from the college to the abbey.

Since the three separate days of recollection will replace the formal retreat here on the campus, the opportunity to make a retreat is being offered to those students who desire to do so.

Greetings For

A Blessed and Joyous Christmas
from
The President and The Faculty

What They Did To Eloise

In the toy-strewn wreckage of a stately suite atop the Plaza Hotel in Manhattan, so the story goes, there once lived a six year old hellcat named Eloise. Eloise was *rather* unusual. She would call room service for one raisin, seven spoons, and one roast-beef bone, and then ask them to "charge it please." She would write her name in lipstick on every available wall or mirror. She packed pistols all over her Edwardian bedroom, complete with period stop sign. The mischievous skills of the storybook's young scamp can only be described as indescribable.

Little Eloise made her television debut a few weeks ago. Movie stars, singers, actors, and even Conrad Hilton, the hotel owner, were engaged for this most important occasion. The play started briskly with our friend Eloise cavorting all over the T.V. set. But even though she was the star, her role became smaller and smaller as the play progressed. Finally Eloise disappeared completely, and we were entertained solely by a chorus of celebrities. Eloise is interested in people only when they are not boring. This may explain her sudden disappearance.

Eloise is a best-selling book by Kay Thompson. It has been described as a book for precocious grownups. Eloise is a person, not a precocious grownup. The executives that presented Eloise on T.V. may be precocious grownups, but they are certainly not persons. When these grownups invaded the simple world of Eloise they injured it with gimmicks, ratings, and commercialization. I hope the injury is not permanent.

Nature Not Good Enough

Are people getting tired of green Christmas trees? The tree business seems to think so and is putting more yellow, brown, pink, and blue trees on the market every year. But these trees are more of a change than an improvement. For they are stiff and monotonously colored, while the green ones are soft with smooth, richly-shaded needles.

Furthermore, besides taking away some of the beauty, coloring a Christmas tree also breaks its union with nature. The pink or blue tree is only a decoration, but the traditional spicy-smelling green tree reminds us of woods and snow and starry winter nights, with maybe one star shining brighter.

Worst of all, there is the same irritating artificiality about a colored evergreen that bothers us in a sheared French poodle. Because of this artificiality, these colored trees are not suitable for children, to whom Christmas really belongs. For a child, natural and uncivilized, knows that it is ridiculous to cover up starry winter nights with a chalky, man-made preparation, just for the sake of a change.

Exerpts From a Letter Cambridge, England

Here are some excerpts from a letter to the Teresian staff written by Sharon McQueeny Quigley, former editor, who is now living at Cambridge, England, where her husband attends classes.

"When I learn to speak more 'English,' I'll send you a vocabulary feature. Right now the language is rather confusing. Our landlady, for instance, never buys corn on the cob because it's liable to go 'squiggly.' I asked for a translation, and she said, 'you know—squiggly.' And here at Cambridge, when a student goes home for vacation, it is called 'going down.' If he gets nervous in an exam, he 'flaps.' And the other night at choir practice, the director told the basses they 'waffled.' I still haven't gotten that translated.

"But I am making progress! We thought it odd that when I bought a roast it cost five shillings, but when Jim bought one it cost nine. Our landlady gave us the clue to this mystery the other day when she told Jim 'Let

Alumnae Notes

• Social Luncheon a Success

About 150 alumnae members lunched together at the Wishbone, December 1. This was the first get-together of its kind for the association. Dorothy Faubion, president of the Alumnae, was pleased with the results and plans more frequent social luncheons.

Bill Vaughan, whose column "Starbeams" appears daily in The Star, was the after-dinner speaker.

Reaction to Barzun's Attitude On Women and College Life

To the editor:

Mr. Jacques Barzun's, *Teacher in America*, was editorially reviewed in the November issue of *The Teresian*. I would like to write the author of that book a letter, but I fear my ire might conquer my courtesy, so I write to you, knowing I can be more objective.

He calls college "four years of leisure." Now I do not know where he went to school, but if going to bed at one and getting up at five to study for exams, is considered leisure, then I think the word needs redefining. Not all college students work for their expenses, but a recent survey has shown that over fifty per cent do work. This is holding down two jobs: school and business. Very few continue this leisurely routine after graduation.

No Routine in College

Mr. Barzun remarks that the college-wife does not easily adjust to the household routine. The fact is, no serious student can spend four successful years in college without acquiring and perfecting the habit of establishing and breaking routines: Humanities II at 8:30; 9:30, prepare for American History. And a semester later, re-establish and begin anew.

Social advantages of college training might also be cited as a general advantage. Only last Sunday a cousin of my husband remarked that she would give anything to have gone to college—she was given the opportunity, but had turned it down. Now her husband is belatedly training in medicine, and all his friends and their wives are college trained. This young lady said her contributions to the conversation were necessarily limited to "do you take cream and sugar?"

Crib No Detriment

In a more particular sense, a liberal arts education is more beneficial than a commercial education. Certainly the aesthetic values of El Greco's St. Paul do not wither simply because one has two filled cribs in the back bedroom. Nor do the haunting strains of a Beethoven symphony cease to entrance because they are interrupted by a hungry cry from the nursery. The vagaries of Tom Jones, the problems of King Lear, the adventures of Guy Crouchback—the fact that one is making soup for dinner does not lessen the "reality" of these creatures, nor make them less accessible.

As your editorial pointed out, of course, Theology is a basic design in the intricate pattern of life; but all the acquisitions of a college education, from the particular knowledge of Bonaparte's last campaign to the general enlargement of one's capacities for the enjoyment of life, are so valuable and so obvious, that Mr. Barzun stuns me with his density.

An alumna, wife, and mother.



REALLY, THERE MUST BE AN EASIER WAY TO GET IN!

Here and There

• In University Play

Mary Jo Randall, CST senior, played the title role in the Kansas City University's production of "Phedre" by Jean B. Racine on December 5-8. The play was under the direction of Dr. Patricia McIlrath and the new translation used was made by Dr. William Crain of the French Department of the University.

• Panti-Waisted Tom

Kansas Notes, December: "The panti-waisted Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn shown on television the night before Thanksgiving would have made Mark Twain change his pseudonym to Priscilla Morninghouse." Quite a come-down for that two-fisted author. Twain fans take note.

• Meaning of "Poke"

Has anybody ever wondered just what the meaning of "poke" is in the expression "A pig in a poke"? Webster defines it as a sack or bag. Just a suggestion, if you've ever wished for a name for the large, over-the-shoulder bags so popular these days.

N. S.

• Not Really Dead

They told me, dear old Santa,
They told me you were dead,
But the letter to Virginia
Contradicted what they said.
I know the truth, dear Santa,
I know you're really real;
The mind's eye can deceive us
But our feelings really feel.

• The Family Club

The Family Life Club held their second meeting Tuesday, December 4, in the smoker. Under the auspices of Father Nadeau they have progressed from going steady to the engagement period. And all in one month! At the next meeting they will take up marriage. Membership of this club is on the increase.

• Former Editors Get Together

A son and a daughter were born December 9, to alumnae Dorothy Brandt Marra and Helen Lathrop Mahoney, both English majors in the Class of '52. Dorothy's son will be named Paul Joseph, and Helen, who already has two daughters, has not chosen the name yet.

Dorothy, editor of *The Teresian* during her sophomore, junior, and senior years, will return to CST next semester to teach a night course in Rhetoric and Composition. She received her M.A. in English from St. Louis University in 1954.

Helen, who edited *The Golden Echo*, college literary magazine, formerly taught an English grammar course in the Adult Education program here at the college.

The TERESIAN

Published Monthly by the Students of the
College of St. Teresa

Subscriptions . . . \$1.00

Missouri Collegiate Association;
"All Catholic."

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Gretchen Teichgraber, Anne Yonke, Carolyn Bousman.

New Courses Offered in Next Session of Adult Education

The next session of Adult Education will open January 14, with many new courses offered. Sister Henrietta Eileen, director of the program, says that the registration for the last session reached an all-time high of 1,650.

In the coming session of eight weeks classes in advertising will be held for the first time. They will cover everything from advertising agencies to advertising on radio and television to copy writing. These problems will be handled by professional men from such business concerns as Sears and Roebuck, The Kansas City Star, and Potts, Woodbury Inc.

The Bette Bonn School offers its instructors for the new modeling course. New classes in millinery and knitting are also being offered.

Important additions are classes by Reverend Hugh Farrington, O.S.B. and Reverend Patrick Killgallon. Both priests will give courses in the Holy Mass.

Architecture and Home, and Human Relations courses are also featured. Architecture and Home will deal with problems of planning,

building, and utilizing space in the home. Helen C. Reedy, a partner in the Russell Stover Company, is in charge of the Human Relations program.

A course on Space Travel is offered for those of scientific bent.

Sister Henrietta Eileen will receive suggestions for additional courses for the program.

Bulletins are available in the office of Adult Education, first floor, Donnelly Hall.

Lit Club Selects Waugh's Best Work For December Meet

The Literary Club met for the second time this year December 9 in the Georgian Lounge in Donnelly Hall. The book under analysis was *Brideshead Revisited* by Evelyn Waugh, regarded by many critics as his best book. Theme, structure, round and flat characters, and British humor were all considered at the meeting.

Virginia Bartholome, freshman, was discussion leader for the meeting. Among those present were Sallie Rielley, senior; Lizanne Van Hee and Joanne Parrott, juniors; Ann Feagan, sophomore; and Pat Lammers, freshman. Mrs. Aileen Stephen, who teaches Rhetoric and Composition, and Sister Marcella Marie, moderator of the Literary Club, also attended the meeting.

Refreshments served after the discussion had an English flavor: spiced tea and lemon puffs from Wolferman's, imported by a manufacturer whose products are used by H.R.H. Elizabeth II of England.

Pat Lammers was hostess. Freshmen who assisted her were Frances Spruill, Ann Fogarty, Arden Sickman, and Linda Turner.

At the January evening meeting Alan Paton's *Too Late the Phalarope* will be discussed. This book may be obtained in paperback for thirty-five cents from the College Bookstore.



PICTURED ABOVE ARE MARILYN MURPHY, MARY PAT CONWAY, VIRGINIA BROWN, AND DANA MERLI, members of the cast of "The Gift of Tenyin," a Japanese Nativity play presented by the Drama Department.

A Sunday performance was given for the faculty and parents of the cast. Following the play tea was served and Maurcen Murphy was hostess. A second performance was given for the Literary and Mission

clubs. A third performance was scheduled for the College Drama Day held at St. Benedict's but icy roads prevented the group from attending. A discussion of Japanese play techniques followed each performance led by Alyce Marie Schmidt, Mary McQueeney, and Sandy Janousek.

"Gift of Tenyin" was written by John Tumpene a member of the Notre Dame faculty.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS:

The Library will be closed during the Christmas holiday season except on the following days:

December 28, 29

January 3, 4, 5.

The time—10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Acting Class to Give Aria da Capo in January

Six members of the Acting Class will present *Aria da Capo* at the January 14 Assembly. The one-act play, symbolic drama by Edna St. Vincent Millay, depicts the cause of wars.

Alyce Marie Schmidt, sophomore, portrays the Masque of Tragedy; the two shepherds, Thyrsus and Corydon, are Kathy Gordon, junior, and Georgann McAdams, sophomore. Mary Jo Randall, senior, is Pierrot and Jane Kirkpatrick, frosh, is Columbine. Sallie Rielley, senior, will present an explanation of the symbolism of the play before the performance.

Initiation for Twelve

Initiation for twelve new members of CST Drama Club will be held Sunday, December 16. The initiates will take the pledge of loyalty to the Club and recite the prayer of St. Genesius, patron of actors.

The new members are: Judy Gibbons, Margaret Reinhart, Pat Turpin, Sandra Janousek, Bonnie Ingenthron, Mary Powers, Margaret Noe, Kathy Gordon, Virginia Brown, Emilie Di Renna, Terry Long, and Mary Pat Conway.

Alyce Marie Schmidt, president, will conduct the initiation ceremony. The Drama Club now has twenty-five active members.

A Directory

The 1956-57 CST student directory was distributed to the students December 10. Suzanne Giblin, secretary of the Student Council, compiled the directory of names, addresses, phone numbers of the full and part-time students and the three-year nursing students.

danna. Buck marched up the ramp resolutely. "Why, Buck!" Santa cried.

"Yeah." Buck swallowed a balloon in his throat. "Santa, remember that bike I wanted? Well, if you don't mind, I'd rather have something else." He paused. "Do you think you could bring my Mother a new coat? A blue one?"

Santa looked at him kindly. "Are you sure, Buck? That's a mighty big thing for you."

Buck kept his eyes on the shiny black boots. "I'm sure. But—maybe would you bring me a bike next year?"

"I think so," he said. "And a year really isn't so long."

Buck brightened. "I guess not."

"You're a very good man, Buck," Santa said. He smiled as the boy bounced down the ramp and disappeared in the crowd. He glanced at his watch. Another hour. He'd buy the coat tonight before he left for home. A blue coat.

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FOREMOST FORECAST

Here are the lucky seven to watch in the next few weeks:

"I SAW ESAU".....Ames Brothers
"LEFT ARM OF BUDDHA".....Les Baxter
"TO YOU I GIVE MY HEART".....Joni James
"JUST IN TIME".....Tony Bennett
"DO YOU LOVE ME?".....Johnny Brandon
"SLOW WALK".....Sil Austin
"I'M FREE".....Al Hibbler

And from the huge Panel Selectors—these three albums are really gone:

"ELVIS".....Elvis Presley
"THURSDAY'S CHILD".....Eartha Kitt
"ROCK & ROLL STAGE SHOW".....Bill Haley

Don't forget Foremost has the biggest Christmas selection of portable phonographs in K. C., starting as low as \$19.95. Featured this week while they last—Elvis Presley personally autographed RCA-45 portables in crazy blue suede leather. Come on in and hear this terrific buy as well as the new Columbia 4-speed Hi-Fi portables.

Why not make it an evening "Jammin'" at Foremost some night soon. We're open from 10 to 10—seven days a week. Now is the perfect time to make out your Christmas disc list. See ya!...at Foremost...42nd and Main. Plenty of free patio parking at our front door.

FOREMOST Record Center

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Begin Holidays With Workshop

Father James Lyons is currently making plans for the Faculty Workshop on Tuesday, December 20. Problems to be discussed will center around Theology as the core of the curriculum. The guest speaker will be Father Vincent Daues, S. J., of the Department of Philosophy at Rockhurst College.

FOLEY

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Santa Always Comes Through

Joanne Parrott

"Edwin's gonna get a bike for Christmas," Buck said, watching his mother over a slice of bread. "A Fly-Speed model, like the big kids have."

His mother ladled stew into cheap, cracked bowls. "Go ahead and eat. Daddy's working late again. And about the bike... Buck, you'd better not count on it too much. After all—Santa has a lot to do."

"Aw, that's for third graders. There ain't no such thing." He wished there was! Every day he'd go two blocks out of his way after school. The bike was displayed in Bon Ton's window, and he'd squint through the window with his forehead and nose squashed against the glass. Buck gazed at the bike with its gleaming silver, the fire-engine red paint, and the black rubber hand-grips and tires so new they looked like fresh licorice. He could feel his hands on the cold steel and the world whirling by.

Then he saw a placard in the corner above the display. VISIT SANTA-LAND THIRD FLOOR it ordered in huge green letters. Buck reflected. After all, it might be true! He sailed into the crowded store and fought elbows to the

elevator. He was folded between the wall and a wide lady wearing one of those furs that still had the heads on, with a hard little nose and glassy eyes. He was suddenly swept away from the fur heads into a noisy floor.

There he was! He looked like Santa, all right. Buck absorbed the red velvet suit, the wide belt, the glossy black boots. Santa's beard looked stringy, though, and he kept scrubbing away drops of perspiration with a huge colored bandanna.

Buck felt silly. Most of the kids in the line were babies, and their mothers waited tiredly on the other side of the candy cane fence. It was finally his turn and he stumbled up the ramp nervously.

Santa started. "Well! You're a—fine-looking fellow. What's your name?"

"Buck. Buckner Williams."

"Have you been a good boy this year?"

Buck hadn't expected the question. "Sometimes." Santa paused. "Well Buck, what do you want Santa to bring you?"

"Oh, a bike! A red, Fly-Speed model like the one in the window."

"Well, now...that's a big order. Sometimes Santa can't get exactly what children want."

Buck's face fell. "I heard you always come through."

"I try to, Buck. I really do. You do want this bike?"

"Awfully."

Santa pulled out the colored bandanna. "All right, Buck. I'll see what I can do."

Mrs. Williams was sewing in the good chair when Buck got home. "I thought you were going over to Aunt Mary's," Buck said.

"I had a little accident and caught my coat on a nail. Can't go with it in two pieces."

"Aw, why don't you buy another? You've had that one for years and years." But he knew why; a week ago he had heard Mother and Daddy talking about a new coat. Mother had said, "You know we can't afford it now. It's warm enough, and we need other things..."

That night Buck lay awake thinking about the thin, brown coat. How he'd like to buy her a beautiful new one! But that would cost at least five dollars and he couldn't save that by Christmas. A shadow passed over his face.

The next day he hurried to the store again and up to the third floor. Santa was still there, with his stringy beard and colored bandanna.



LEAVING FOR THEIR EIGHT-WEEK AFFILIATION at the Missouri State Sanatorium, Mt. Vernon, Missouri, are Susan Axtell, Connie Beretta, Connie Bankin, and Sharon McNamara. On the steps of St. Joseph Hospital bidding them good-by are Patricia Erzen, Jo Zuroweste, Mary Ann Banck, Jane Hanley,

Sister Marie Christine, and Sister M. Fabian. This is the first time that the Department of Nursing has had an affiliation with a tuberculosis sanatorium. The student nurses will return to St. Joseph's the last week in January.

A White Christmas: Real Or Imaginary?

The song, "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas," is becoming more of a prayer lately in Missouri. It seems that every year just as Christmas approaches all snow clouds disappear and the temperatures soar.

This tropical weather for the Christmas season is becoming a serious problem. The people who design Christmas cards at Hall Brothers in Kansas City are forgetting what snow looks like. This causes their employers no small grief. It's expensive importing

snow to model for the artists. Don't be surprised if you find a puddle of water as a design on a Christmas card this year. The artists also insist on heated studios.

Another serious problem that arises from the displacement of the seasons is the danger of disillusioning children. Although mothers have tried to point out that Santa can replace the runners on his sleigh with skate wheels, the children instinctively know this is impossible. Don't they have to be

asleep when Santa comes? Can you imagine sleeping while reindeer pull a sleigh on roller skates across your roof?

Business men, however, have capitalized on this dearth of snow. When the seasons began to change, manufacturers immediately put on the market those cans of spray-on artificial snow. To this day some little boys and girls under five years old think that snow is "sticky, white stuff that won't come off your hands 'till you wash them."

Still there are some advantages to all this. Now you can get that bathing suit you couldn't afford last summer, and chances are, you'll be wearing it Christmas day. You can also get that tan you wanted. You must be careful though, or you'll get your sunburn back instead.

But don't worry if one of your presents is a big woolly sweater. You can always wear that for Easter, because our annual blizzard seems to come in March.

Creative Writing Kept Alive On Girls' College Campuses

Edward P. J. Corbett, assistant professor in the Department of English at The Creighton University, Omaha, has written an interesting article in the December 1 issue of *America*, entitled "The Collegiate Muse: Gone Feminine?"

Mr. Corbett notes that literary production has shifted its center from the newspaper offices to the campus. The majority of writers, he tells us, represented in literary magazines are either students in college right now or graduates of the period immediately following the war. Many of these writers hold or are working for graduate degrees, disproving the theory that the Ph.D. degree "Freezes up the creative juices."

Mr. Corbett expresses concern over the literary thaw on Catholic campuses. Results of the 1955-56 Literary Contest for College Students were published in the *Atlantic Monthly*. All the first prizes went to students in non-Catholic colleges. Catholic students, however, were well represented among the first five winners. Our own Mary Jo Randall placed third in the poetry division. All of the Catholic-school winners came from 15 Catholic colleges, 14 of which are girls schools taught by nuns.

Mr. Corbett points out that there was not a single winner from a

Jesuit school or from any of the larger all-male or coeducational Catholic universities. He says that the larger Catholic universities could not justify their lethargy by stating that it is only these "finishing schools" which have time for such trivialities, for this statement has two fallacies: One, creative writing is not a triviality. Universities have gained as much prestige from the achievements of their creative graduates as from political and business achievements. Two, the demands of the curriculums do not usurp the time for creative activity. The Catholic universities simply lack interest.

To remedy this situation Mr. Corbett believes Catholic schools should hire successful writers, with or without degrees, and grant them an honored position on the faculty. Students should be required to enter contests. More Catholic schools should institute graduate degrees in creative writing.

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